

**In the Specification:**

After paragraph [0009] please insert the following paragraphs:

--FIG. 2 is a schematic cross-sectional view through the weapon of FIG. 1 in the vicinity of the ejection openings.

FIG. 3 is a schematic view of an alternative example weapon illustrating two openings which may be covered by the same dust cover.--.

Please replace paragraph [0011] with the following paragraph:

--[0011]       A first dust cover 7 is visible above the magazine 5. This dust cover 7 is activated for left-handed marksmen. A second dust cover for right-handed marksmen is arranged on the opposite side (~~not shown~~) of the housing 1 and is a mirror image of the first dust cover 7 (see FIG. 2).--.

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following paragraph:

--[0016]       From the preceding description, one possessing ordinary skill in the art will appreciate the advantages of the illustrated example devices. For example, a magnetic lock employing a metal strip 13 and magnetic pins 15 as the locking mechanism is ~~simple, cost-effective~~ simple, cost-effective, and achieves reliable locking of the dust cover or covers 7 on a hand-held firearm or handgun, even if the housing 1 becomes

deformed as a result of an applied force, e.g., as a result of dropping the weapon.--.

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following paragraph:

--[0021] The dust cover 7 can cover more than one opening. For example, the dust cover 7 may cover the magazine opening and/or another opening 22 (such as one provided for the storage of a cleaning tool or the like) in the gun (see FIG. 3). Preferably, however, the dust cover 7 is located to cover an ejection opening 17 for cartridge shells, and the recoil movement of the breechblock opens the magnetic lock securing the dust cover 7.--.